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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**APPLICANT:** Nigel V. Spurr, et al.      **EXAMINER:** Boswell, Christopher J.  
**SERIAL NO.:** 10/726,899      **GROUP:** 3676  
**FILED:** 12/03/2003      **ATTY DKT NO.:** H0005871  
**TITLED:** METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR MAGNETIC COUPLING OF  
LATCH MECHANISMS

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**AMENDMENT, REPLY AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 29, 2004 in the above captioned matter, the Applicants present the following remarks and amendments to the claims.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

The remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.